

moment in history an occurrence took place that would forever changed Dr. Garcia's life and thrust him into the national spotlight.

When a funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas, refused burial services for a Mexican-American Army Private Felix Longoria, who had died fighting for his country in the Philippines, Dr. Garcia organized the outraged Latino community in protest against this treatment of a fellow American and soldier. The protests were noticed by Senator Lyndon B. Johnson. The Senator's intervention brought an end to the travesty and the Army private was buried with full honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

The incident preceded the founding of the American GI Forum of the United States by Dr. Garcia. Created to assist individuals with their VA benefits, the organization soon took on a deeper meaning and a more vital cause. The American GI Forum became the rallying organization for equal rights in housing, jobs, education, and voting. It also sought to eradicate discrimination and to desegregate the schools, the churches, the theaters, and restaurants—any place that a human being should be allowed the dignity and freedom that he deserved.

Dr. Garcia's life was filled with so many noteworthy and honorable distinctions. In 1968, President Johnson made him the first Mexican American to serve on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. And, in 1984, President Ronald Reagan conferred upon him one of our country's highest and most prestigious honors—the Medal of Freedom. The Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian award given to those who have made humanitarian contributions to their fellow man and who have a deep belief in the traditional American ideals.

Today, Dr. Hector Garcia's vision lives on. The American GI Forum now has the veterans of the Vietnam War and the Gulf War carrying on the fight for human dignity. The traditions and the message that Garcia believed in are perhaps expressed best in the "Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi," the official prayer of the American GI Forum: "Lord, Make me an instrument of Thy Peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love . . ." Dr. Garcia lived this prayer. Please join me today in paying tribute to this great humanitarian.

TRIBUTE TO CROATIAN HERITAGE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to my Croatian heritage. On Sunday, March 15, 1998, the Duquesne University Tamburitans performed at Merrillville High School in Merrillville, Indiana. Following this event, there was a reception at Croatian Fraternal Union Lodge #170 in Merrillville, Indiana hosted by Lodge President Mrs. Elizabeth Morgavan.

Croatian Americans have played an integral role in the development and continued success of the United States of America. Beginning in early part of this century, thousands of Croatian people emigrated to the United States to seek a better and more prosperous life. Many Croatian immigrants came to major industrial centers such as Gary, East Chicago,

Youngstown, Pittsburgh, and Detroit. The jobs that awaited them were not easy and the working conditions not always safe. Nonetheless, these brave people endured and succeeded to build better lives for themselves and their children.

I grew up in an ethnic neighborhood in Gary, Indiana. It was a neighborhood where names like Roganovich, Mudrovich, and Milosovich were more common than Smith, Baker, and Wilson. It was a well tended neighborhood where everyone knew the names of the people on their block. It was a neighborhood where hard work and mutual respect ruled the day.

On 38th and Madison, I learned the values which are so prominent in many of my Croatian brothers and sisters. I have seen first hand how faith, family, humility, determination, courage, concern, and appreciation of our shared heritage can build good character. Croatian immigrants did not have it easy in America. They had to fight to overcome language and cultural differences—but overcome they did. They made the steel that made the cars, machines, and engines that today has made America a beacon of hope to the rest of the world. For that, I am very proud. Croatian-Americans have played by the rules despite the heavy obstacles placed in front of them. For that, I am very proud. They have put God, family, and country at the top of the list. For that, I am very proud. Yes, I am proud to be a part of an ethnic group that has brought so much to the United States of America. Croatian Americans have truly lived the American dream. I will continue to fight to ensure that we continue to dream.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ESSIE UNDERWOOD

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the community of Religious Sisters of Mercy, Catholic school system in Guam, and the people of Guam, particularly the Underwood and Martinez families are in mourning today over the passing of Sister Mary Inez at the age of 91. Though she was frail in her final days, she will always be remembered for her energy and vitality with which she undertook the establishment of both a Mercy convent and a Catholic school system in Guam in 1946 and 1947, respectively.

At the request of Guam's newly-appointed American Catholic bishop, Apollinaris William Baumgartner, Sister Inez returned home to her war-ravaged island to help rebuild not only the island but also the Catholic Church in Guam. In the years prior to World War II, the predominantly Catholic population of Guam was ministered to by American Catholic priests under the direction of Bishop Miguel Olano, a Spaniard who continued the centuries old traditions of Spanish Catholicism. In rebuilding the church after the war, Bishop Baumgartner brought in many new American traditions. The bishop also wanted to formalize religious instruction and education. For this task, he called in Sister Mary Inez.

Born Mary Essie Underwood on October 25, 1906, Sister Mary Inez was the first Chamorro

woman to enter the Catholic religious life. She was accepted as a novice in Belmont, North Carolina in 1926, and until her death on March 9 of this year, she remained firmly committed to her vocation and dedicated to her calling. So much so that in 1946, she sought and secured permission to establish the Religious Sisters of Mercy Order in Guam. In addition to recruiting students for the Diocese of Agaña's new Catholic elementary school, Sister Inez also encouraged and inspired other women to join the convent. Today, the Mercy Convent in Guam is a robust community of well respected teaching professionals, most of whom are Chamorro. In the years since the opening of the original convent in Agaña, Mercy Convents are now established in Tai Mangilao, Oka Tamuning, Dedeco, and Inarajan.

Sister Inez founded the Catholic Grade School and the academy of Our Lady of Guam, an all-girls school which continues to produce many of the most successful and accomplished women in Guam today. From humble beginnings in the devastation of Guam in the aftermath of World War II, these two schools were the first of what has grown into a system of seven Catholic grade schools, four nursery/child care centers, an all-male high school and a co-ed high school, attesting to the growth and success of Sister Inez's early efforts.

As a Catholic nun, Sister Inez chose a life of celibacy, and though she had no children of her own, there are thousands of children and adults on Guam who are proud inheritors of her educational legacy. Sister Inez was the daughter of James Holland and Ana Martinez Underwood. She now joins them and her brothers and sisters, Eugenia Salvano, my father John Underwood, James, Raymond, Nancy Shoffner, Rosie Duenas, and Carmen Underwood. In addition to her many convent sisters, Sister Inez leaves behind many nieces, nephews, and grandnieces and nephews who have had the loving privilege of calling her Aunt Mary. I am among them and proud to say, "Adios, Aunt Mary. Si Yu'os un benendisi."

SWINGLE AWARD GIVEN TO BRIAN F. KELLY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Brian F. Kelly, a community leader from my district in Pennsylvania. The Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will bestow the W. Francis Swingle "Irishman of the Year" award on Brian F. Kelly at their 84th annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet. I am honored and pleased to have been asked to join this tribute.

Commander Brian F. Kelly, Chaplain, United States Navy is a priest of the Diocese of Scranton, Pennsylvania. Father Kelly attended St. Joseph's Oblate Seminary and St. Pius X Seminary. He is a 1973 graduate of the University of Scranton. In 1977, he earned his Masters in Pastoral Theology from St. John's in Boston. In 1990, the U.S. Navy assigned him to post-graduate study at the University of San Diego, where he earned a masters in Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling. In

1996, he earned his Ph.D in Pastoral Psychology.

Father Kelly was ordained to the priesthood in St. Peter's Cathedral on May 7, 1977. Father Kelly has served in the diocese as a Chaplain at Mercy Hospital, an Assistant Pastor at Williamsport's Annunciation Church, and a Chaplain in Williamsport's Divine Providence Hospital.

Father Kelly was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps of the United States Navy on August 3, 1984.

Among other assignments, Father Kelly has been stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina; the U.S.S. *Midway* in Yokosuk, Japan; the Marine First Force Service Support Group at Camp Pendleton; the Marine Air Ground Task Force in Honduras; and the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit in the Mediterranean Theater. He is presently assigned to Headquarters and Support Battalion of the Marine Corps Base at Camp Pendleton in California.

Mr. Speaker, despite his travels, Father Kelly has always been rooted in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I join the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in honoring this distinguished and accomplished man and I send my best wishes for another successful St. Patrick's day event.

A TRIBUTE TO CLIFFIE STONE

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, in January of this year, Country music lost one of its greatest legends. Cliffie Stone, a larger than life individual, passed away earlier this year at the age of 84. He was one of those characters that you imagine riding off into the sunset, with a guitar slung over his shoulder and mounted on a white horse, singing a song that reminds us of who we are and want to be.

Starting in the 1940s, Cliffie Stone was a well-known bass player and singer. In the '50s, his Hometown Jamboree television show made him one of the largest personalities of the time. Many careers can trace their roots to this show, including Tennessee Ernie Ford and Molly Bee.

Cliffie was a lifelong music producer who also performed with the Sons of Pioneers. His mark in the industry includes a star at Hollywood and Vine, a Bronze Saddle on the Western Walk of Stars in Santa Clarita, and membership in the Country Music Hall-of-Fame.

Mr. Speaker, the members of our community in Santa Clarita remember a different Cliffie Stone. We knew Cliffie as a neighbor, constituent, and friend. Cliffie never forgot his roots and returned each year to give something back to the people that admired him so. For each of the last 40 years, Cliffie Stone would return to Santa Clarita to perform free benefit concerts for hundreds of charities within the Santa Clarita Valley.

Today I join the thousands of constituents of mine in the Santa Clarita Valley in saying goodbye to a wonderful musician, a good neighbor, but most importantly a friend. We, and I in particular, will miss Cliffie very much. Let me end by offering my condolences to the family of Cliffie Stone and with the wonderful lyrics of his music:

The arena is dark ... the bleachers are empty and the crowd noises are no more. The Cowboy has ridden off into the sunset ... as was always God's plan. The boots and the buckles are polished, the guitar is back in its case ... with the guitar picks in their place. The turbulence has subsided ... The dragons are all slain ... The arena, somehow, has lost its reason to be.

TRIBUTE TO DR. C.M. (NED) WHALEN

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. E.M. (Ned) Whalen, who has been designated as the "Man of the Year" by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. The Friendly Sons will honor Dr. Whalen at their annual St. Patrick's Day banquet on March 17, 1998. I am honored to have been asked to participate in this event.

Dr. Whalen, the son of the late Raymond and Kate McLaughlin Whalen, was born in 1916. A captain in the Army in World War II, Dr. Whalen received the Bronze Star and Bronze Medal Cluster for his service.

After graduating from Temple University Medical School in 1942, Dr. Whalen practiced general medicine in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania from 1946 to 1954. He then did a residency in psychiatry at Danville State Hospital and practiced psychiatry until his retirement in 1989.

In 1968, he was made a fellow in the Pennsylvania Psychiatry Association and in 1973, he was made a fellow in the national association.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Whalen devotes much of his time to community service. He is a member of the board of directors of the Glen Summit Association, the Georgetown Settlement House, the Council House, and the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Mental Health/Mental Retardation Association.

I applaud the Friendly Sons choice of Dr. Ned Whalen as this year's honoree and I am pleased to have the chance to bring his accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HUNGARIAN REVOLUTION OF 1848

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 16, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, the year 1848 was a time of great political and social upheaval in Europe, which led to significant changes throughout the continent, with major events taking place in Germany, Austria, France, and Hungary. This was the revolutionary year when Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels penned the Communist Manifesto. Nowhere in Europe were those transformations more dramatic and far-reaching than those that convulsed Hungary.

Exactly 150 years ago yesterday—on March 15, 1848—Hungarians in the city of Pest

staged a massive peaceful demonstration demanding their independence from Austria. That demonstration marked the beginning of a brief but very significant period of independence and freedom for the people of Hungary. On March 15th in Vienna, the father of Hungarian democracy, Lajos Kossuth, and Hungarian parliamentary representatives presented demands to the Austrian Court for the severing of all ties between Austria and Hungary, except for the personal union of the Habsburg Emperor, who was also King of Hungary. The panic-stricken court accepted Kossuth's demands and a brief period of Hungarian independence began. In recognition of the importance of these events in the nation's history, March 15th has been the national day of Hungary.

Hungary's independence, however, was short-lived. Under the leadership of Kossuth, Hungary severed all ties with Austria and the Habsburgs in July. The Austrian government, however, mobilized an army of troops loyal to the emperor. Kossuth rallied the Hungarian nation, organized the military defense of the country, and continued the organization of the newly independent nation. Despite the overwhelming odds, he was making progress.

In June 1849, however, the Russian Tsar Nicholas I offered troops to the Austrian Emperor, and the Austrians accepted their offer. Against such an overwhelming force, however, the Hungarians could not prevail. Many of the Hungarian freedom fighters of 1848–1849 were killed in the military action that followed the Russian invasion. Kossuth, and many of his associates, were forced to flee Hungary. The leader of Hungarian independence came to the United States for over six months from December 1851 through July 1852. Here he was welcomed and honored for his inspired leadership in the struggle for the freedom of the Hungarian people.

Mr. Speaker, in March 1990, as the people of Hungary were celebrating their new birth of freedom as the old communist government was disintegrating, a bust of Lajos Kossuth was placed in the United States Capitol, and it is still there on display as a symbol of the great friendship between the people of Hungary and the United States. On Friday of last week, I joined a group of Hungarian Americans and representatives of the government of Hungary to place a wreath on this bust of Kossuth to mark the 150th anniversary of that historic date of March 15, 1848.

Mr. Speaker, the event which catalyzed the revolution in Hungary on March 15, 1848, was the reading of a poem that expressed national sentiments of the Hungarian people. On that day Sandor Petofi, a twenty-five year old Hungarian romantic poet, read his poem "Rise Up, Magyar!" or "National Song" on the steps of the National Museum in Budapest. Petofi's recitation of "Rise Up, Magyar!" incited the crowd as they joined with him in chanting in unison the final line of each stanza of the poem—

"God of Hungarians, we swear unto Thee,
We swear unto Thee—that slaves we shall no longer be!"

Petofi was true to the high patriotic sentiments that he expressed in his magnificent poem. He was killed in 1849 in fighting to defend the independence and freedom of Hungary.

Poetry is always difficult to translate, Mr. Speaker, but Professor Adam Makkai has